

# CRIME

**THE LAW  
ALWAYS WINS!**

**SMASHERS**

MAY NO. 10  
10¢

YOU'RE **THROUGH**, YOU RAT!  
YOU MADE YOUR WORST MISTAKE  
WHEN YOU PULLED THAT GUN  
ON ME!

**OH!** I'M GLAD THE LAW  
CAUGHT UP WITH THAT RACKETEER  
AT LAST. HE HAS BEEN  
TERRORIZING THIS WHOLE  
NEIGHBORHOOD —

Featuring:  
**SALLY THE SLEUTH  
DAN TURNER  
GIRL FRIDAY  
RAY HALE**

**CRIME CAN'T PAY — IN ANY WAY!**





WEB COMIC  
UNIVERSE.COM



# GAIL FORD... GIRL

# FRIDAY

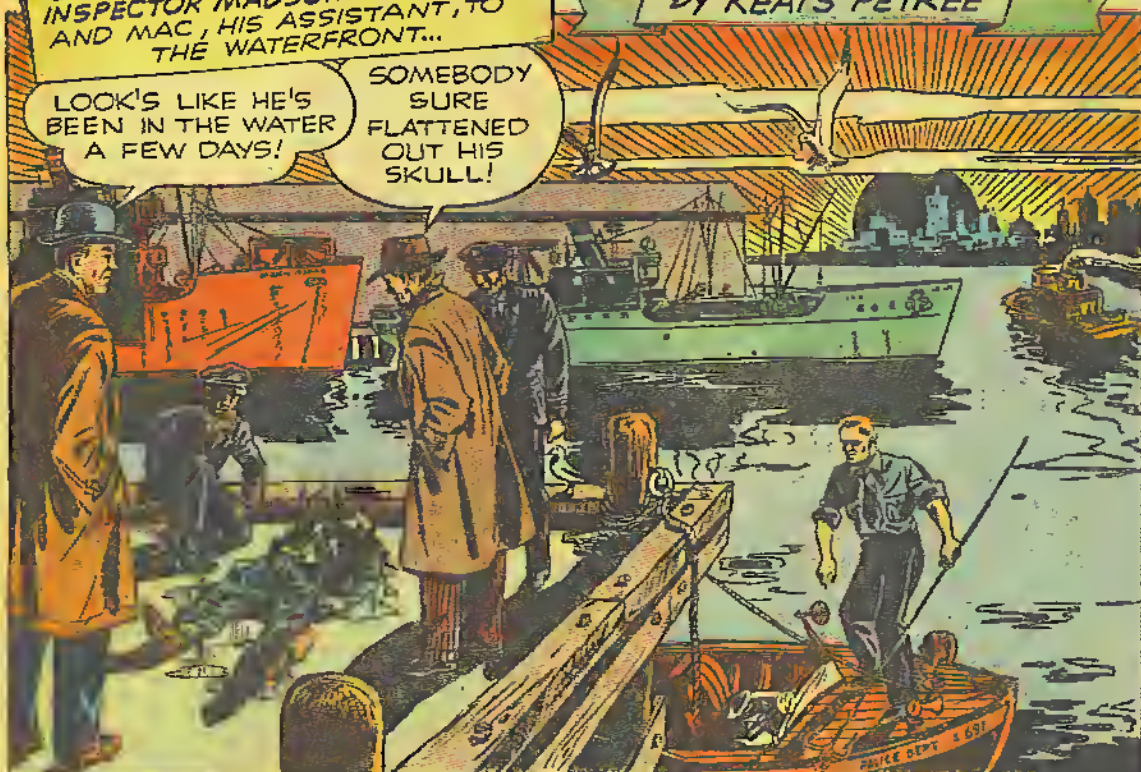
in  
"DIME-A-DANCE DEATH!"

The EARLY-MORNING DISCOVERY OF A FLOATING BODY BRINGS INSPECTOR MADSON OF HOMICIDE AND MAC, HIS ASSISTANT, TO THE WATERFRONT...

by KEATS PETREE

LOOK'S LIKE HE'S BEEN IN THE WATER A FEW DAYS!

SOMEBODY SURE FLATTENED OUT HIS SKULL!



LATER, IN MADSON'S OFFICE...

HIS POCKETS WERE CLEANED OUT BY THE KILLER! THE ONLY LEAD IS THIS TICKET FROM THE "SUNSET PAVILION" A WATERFRONT DIME-A-DANCE PLACE! IT WAS CAUGHT IN A SEAM OF HIS COAT! NOW, GAIL, OUR ONLY CHANCE...

I KNOW, CHIEF! GAIL, THE GUMSHOE, BECOMES A TAXI DANCER, AND WALTZES AROUND FOR CLUES!



I KNEW YOU'D DO IT, GAIL! MAC HERE WILL BE AROUND IF YOU NEED HIM!

OKAY, MAC... ON TO THE "SUNSET PAVILION"! MY FEET ARE ACHING ALREADY!





**UNDER MAC'S WATCHFUL EYE, GAIL JOINS THE "HOSTESSES" AT THE "SUNSET PAVILION". A FEW NIGHTS LATER...**

**OW!** AVAST THERE, SAILOR! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE HEADED! YOU'RE STEERING ONTO MY TOES!

I'M LOOKIN' FER A BLONDE NAMED MAE! MY BUDDY HAPPY LEFT HERE WITH HER A WEEK AGO, AND I AIN'T SEEN HIM SINCE!



**SENSING A LEAD, GAIL PUMPS HER PARTNER...**

HARRY SOUNDS LIKE QUITE A LADIES' MAN!

OH, HE'S A SLICK ONE! BRITISHER...SMOOTH... USED TO BE A BUTLER FER SOME UPTOWN SOCIETY MUG BEFORE HE TOOK TO THE SEA!



SOCIETY MUG? SOUNDS INTERESTING! WHO WAS IT?

MAN NAMED ALBERT... SOMETHING LIKE THAT. SAY! THERE'S MAE NOW!



MAE! WANNA TALK TO YUH! WHERE'S HARRY?

I DUNNO WHAT YER TALKIN' ABOUT!

LEGGO HER, MATE!



WHERE IS HE? YUH LEFT HERE WIT' HIM!

I TOLO YUH TO LAY OFF, MATE!





A cartoon illustration showing a man in a striped shirt being punched by a man in a suit. The man in the striped shirt is shouting "SMACK!" and the man in the suit is shouting "E-E-E!". The scene is set in a room with a striped curtain in the background. The man in the striped shirt is also shouting "MAF'S SNEAKING" at the bottom of the frame.

**TAKE THAT!**

MAE'S SNEAKING  
OUT THAT EXIT! I'D  
BETTER FOLLOW HER!

**WISTING HER WAY OUT THE DOOR,  
GAIL PURSUES THE FLEEING MAE...**



MAE...WAIT! I WANT  
TO TALK TO YOU!





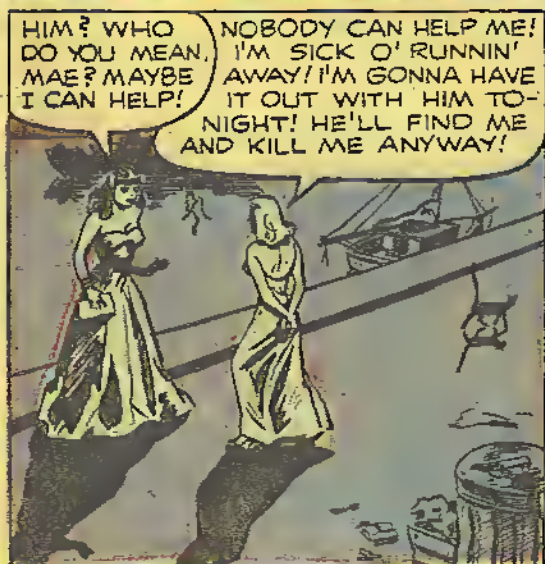
HOLD ON, MAE!

WHO'RE YOU?



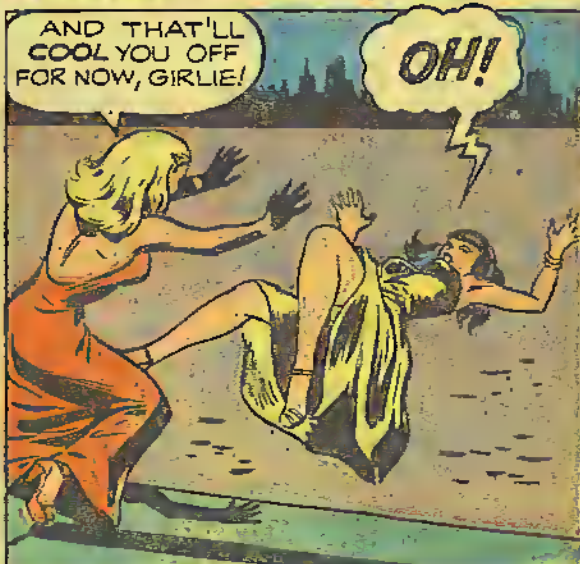
I'M GAIL... FROM THE PAVILION... WHAT'S THE MATTER?

OH... ~~SOB~~... YOU'RE PROB'LY LYIN'! YOU'RE PROB'LY WORKIN' FOR HIM!



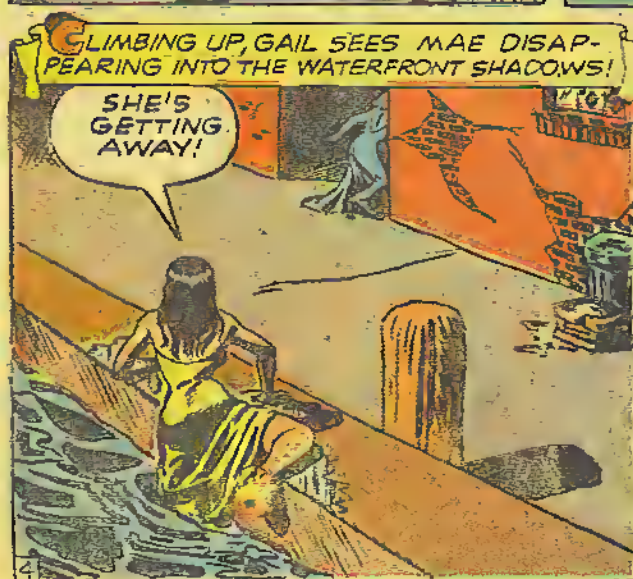
HIM? WHO DO YOU MEAN, MAE? MAYBE I CAN HELP!

NOBODY CAN HELP ME! I'M SICK O' RUNNIN' AWAY! I'M GONNA HAVE IT OUT WITH HIM TO-NIGHT! HE'LL FIND ME AND KILL ME ANYWAY!



AND THAT'LL COOL YOU OFF FOR NOW, GIRLIE!

OH!



CLIMBING UP, GAIL SEES MAE DISAPPEARING INTO THE WATERFRONT SHADOWS!

SHE'S GETTING AWAY!



THAT SAILOR MENTIONED A MAN NAMED ALBERT! IT COULD BE SPENCER ALBERT...THE YOUNG MILLIONAIRE! JUST A HUNCH...BUT I'LL TAKE A CAB UPTOWN TO HIS PLACE! LUCKY I PUT SOME MONEY IN MY STOCKING!



**N**EAR SPENCER ALBERT'S LAVISH HOME, GAIL SEES...

IT'S ALBERT!  
GOING FOR A  
DRIVE AT 3 A.M.!

I'LL TAKE THE CAR,  
JAMES... I WON'T NEED  
YOU ANYMORE TONIGHT!



AS ALBERT'S CAR PULLS AWAY FROM THE CURB, GAIL TAKES A DESPERATE CHANCE...

HOPPING CARS IS DANGEROUS...  
BUT IT'S MY ONLY HOPE  
OF TAILING HIM!



LOOKS LIKE ALBERT'S HEADED FOR  
THE WATERFRONT! MAC WILL BE TRYING  
TO LOCATE ME! MAYBE IF I SCATTER  
THESE DANCE TICKETS THROUGH THE  
STREETS, HE CAN PICKUP THE TRAIL!



IT'S THE WATERFRONT, ALL RIGHT!  
MY HUNCH PAID OFF! IF I CAN  
JUST HANG ON...



**B**UT THE SPEEDING CAR MAKES A SUDDEN SHARP TURN AND GAIL IS THROWN CLEAR!





MINUTES LATER, THE DAZED GAIL  
PULLS HERSELF TO HER FEET...

ALBERT'S CAR! PARKED AT THE  
END OF THE ALLEY! AND THERE'S  
A LIGHT IN THE HARBOR SHACK THERE!



QUITE A SPOT  
YOU PICKED FOR  
A RENDEZVOUZ,  
MAE! YOU'VE  
CHANGED A LOT  
IN SEVEN YEARS!

HOW ABOUT YOU...MR.  
SPENCER ALBERT! YOU  
SURE CHANGED FROM THE  
TIME YOU WERE PLAIN AL  
SPENCE...KING OF THE  
DOPE RACKET!



THAT'S ALBERT  
...AND MAE!

PEERING THROUGH THE  
WINDOW, GAIL SEES...

YOU'RE THE  
ONLY ONE WHO  
KNOWS THAT,  
MAE!

AND SO YOU  
LOOKED FOR ME...TO  
KILL ME! YOU DIDN'T  
KNOW I WAS HIDING  
OUT IN A CRUMMY  
DANCE JOINT!



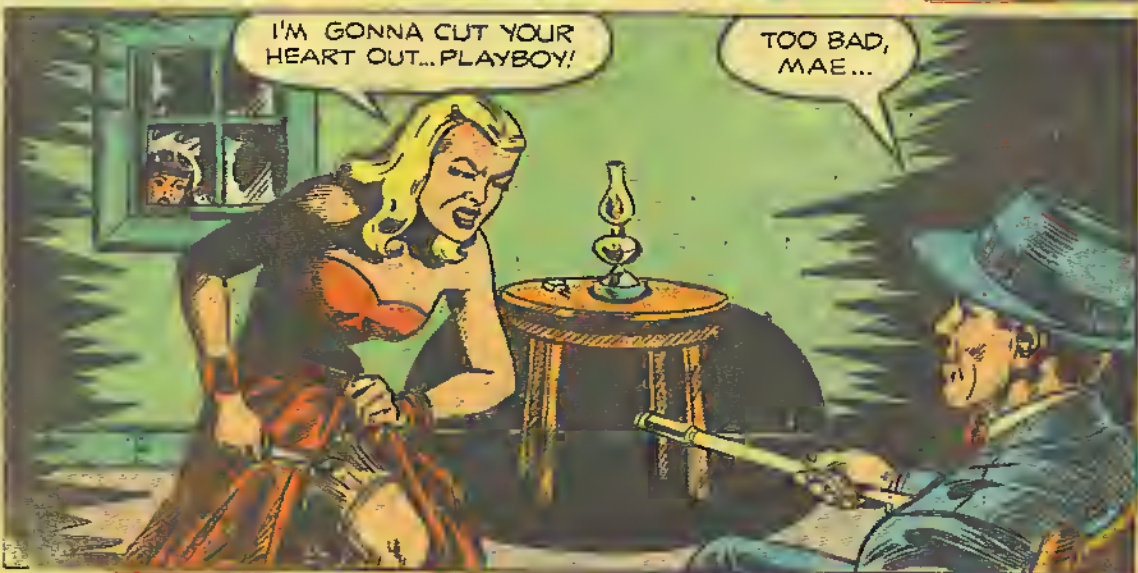
NOW I KNOW.  
BUT WHY CALL  
ME TONIGHT?

BECAUSE I'M SICK O'  
HIDIN'! YOU HAD A  
BUTLER... HARRY! HE  
KNEW I WAS YOUR GIRL!  
I HADDA TAKE CARE O' HIM  
TO KEEP HIM QUIET... AND I  
DECIDED TO TAKE CARE  
O' YOU THE SAME WAY!

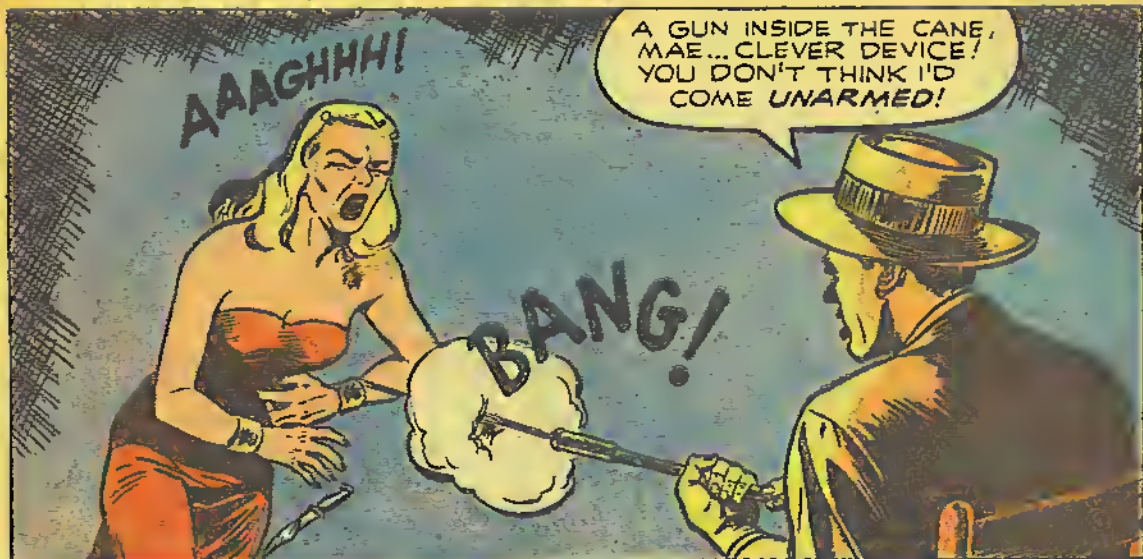


I'M GONNA CUT YOUR  
HEART OUT...PLAYBOY!

TOO BAD,  
MAE...







IN HER HASTE TO GET HELP, GAIL STUMBLES!



GAIL RUNS... WITH DEATH CLOSE BEHIND...



IF HE GETS ME, I'M A GONER! IF I EVER NEEDED HELP, IT'S NOW!





**S**ILENTLY THE KILLER STALKS GAIL THROUGH THE GRIM DARKNESS, AS THE WAVES LAP QUIETLY UNDER THE PIER...



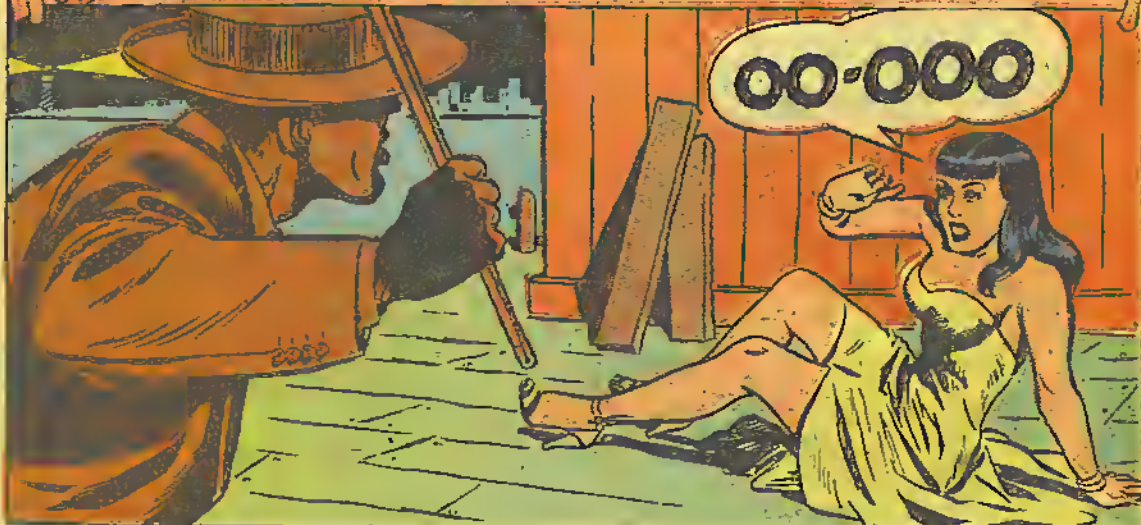
**S**UDDENLY THERE IS A NOISE!

**OHH!  
A RAT!!**

THERE YOU ARE! THANKS FOR LETTING ME KNOW!



**A**LBERT LEAPS AT GAIL, SWINGING HIS CANE FOR A CRUSHING BLOW...

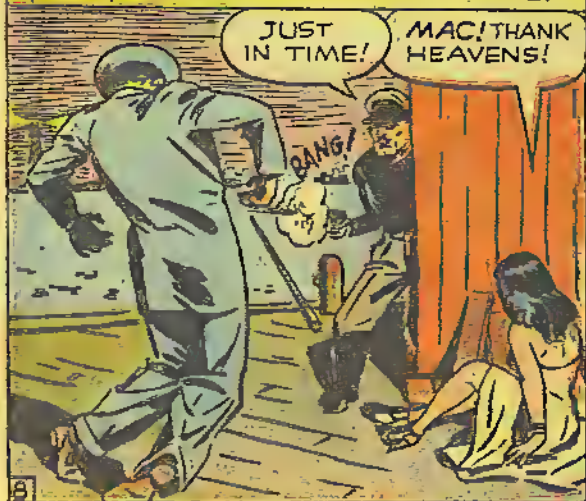


**B**UT ALBERT SEEMS TO STOP IN MID-AIR, THEN TWIST AND CRUMPLE!

JUST IN TIME!

MAC! THANK HEAVENS!

**PANG!**



I COMBED THE WATERFRONT, AND FINALLY PICKED UP YOUR TRAIL OF TICKETS! WHO IS... OR WAS... THIS GUY?

A FORMER GANGSTER TURNED RESPECTABLE! I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT IT LATER, MAC! RIGHT NOW I WANT TO RELAX. THIS NIGHT LIFE IS KILLING ME... IT ALMOST DID!



LOOK FOR GAIL'S NEW CASE NEXT ISSUE...



# DAN TURNER

HOLLYWOOD DETECTIVE

## DEATH TRUMPS THE JOKER

ALTAMONT CAMERAMAN CHUCK BOONE, HOLLYWOOD'S MOST NOTORIOUS PRACTICAL JOKER, CHATS WITH DAN TURNER IN A GIN MILL

HERE'S A PASS TO STAGE SIX, SHERLOCK! DON'T MISS BEING THERE TOMORROW MORNING! I'VE RIGGED THE BIGGEST JOKE OF MY CAREER!

WHO'S THE GOAT OF THE CAPER?



STORY: ROBT  
LESLIE BELLEM

PICTURES: MAX  
PLAISTED

IT'S LAURA LANE, OUR NEWEST STAR--- THE GAL WITH THE GORGEOUS BUILD AND THE EXCESSIVE MODESTY! YOU'LL SEE A LOT OF HER, PHILO!

SOUNDS ENTICING!



NEXT DAY TURNER VISITS SOUND STAGE SIX, A TANK SET REPRESENTING A PORTION OF THE ENGLISH CHANNEL

HERE I AM, CHUCK! TELL ME THE GIMMICK!

LAURA LANE PORTRAYS A CHANNEL SWIMMER COATED WITH THICK GREASE! I'VE SATURATED THE WATER WITH A GREASE SOLVENT!





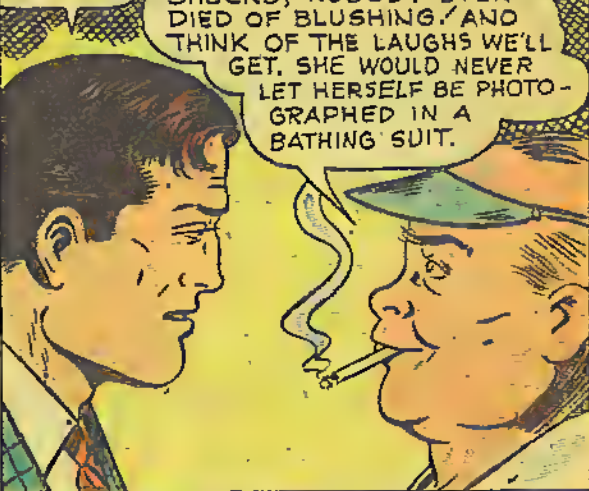
YIPE! THAT WILL  
MELT ALL THE  
GOO OFF HER!

CORRECT! IT WILL  
BE A SWIM-STRIP  
TEASE!



BUT THE LANE QUAIL IS SO MODEST  
SHE'LL BE EMBARRASSED TO  
DEATH!

SHUCKS, NOBODY EVER  
DIED OF BLUSHING! AND  
THINK OF THE LAUGHS WE'LL  
GET. SHE WOULD NEVER  
LET HERSELF BE PHOTO-  
GRAPHED IN A  
BATHING SUIT.



PENNY VERNON, PERT ALTAMONT PRESS AGENT,  
BRINGS SOME NEWSPAPER COLUMNISTS ON STAGE.

THOUGH LAURA LANE IS NOTED FOR  
HER SHYNESS AND MODESTY, TODAY  
YOU FOLKS WILL SEE HER IN  
A SWIMMING SEQUENCE!  
IT TOOK THE FRONT OFFICE  
A LOT OF ARGUMENT  
TO PERSUADE HER TO MAKE  
THIS PICTURE!

BRING HER ON!  
I'M DROOLING!



NOW WE'LL  
FIND OUT IF  
SHE WEARS FALSIES, AS  
I'VE ALWAYS SUSPECTED!

LAURA LANE'S MAID HELPS HER GET  
READY IN HER DRESSING ROOM.

I STILL THINK THEY  
SHOULD LET ME WEAR  
A SUIT INSTEAD OF  
THIS LITTLE—I  
FEEL SHAMELESS!

THIS GREASE WILL  
COVER YOU,  
MISS LAURA!



THERE'LL BE NEWSPAPER PEOPLE  
WATCHING THE SCENE!

BUT THE GREASE WILL BE  
ALL OVER YOU. EVEN THE  
SUIT WON'T SHOW.





PACED BY TWO SUPPORTING HAMS IN A ROWBOAT,  
THE LANE DOLL STARTS HER PHONY CHANNEL-SWIM

ROLL 'EM!  
ACTION!  
GOOSE THAT WAVE  
MACHINE!

LOOKS SO REAL IT  
MAKES ME SEASICK!

THE GREASE 'IS OFF.  
THROW ME A COAT--  
OR SOMETHING!

THE GREASE-SOLVENT IN THE  
WATER DOES ITS STUFF---

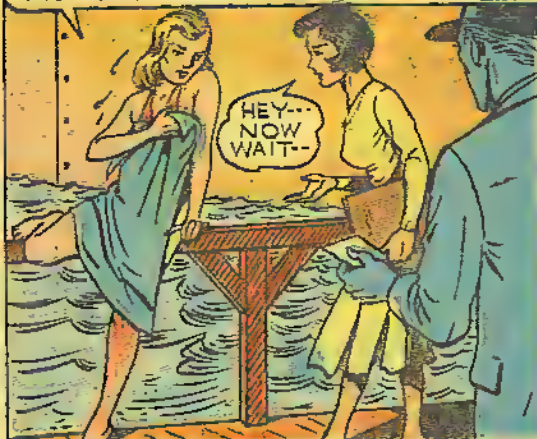
EE-EE-EEEK!  
MY GREASE IS  
MELTING OFF!

A TOWEL ---  
ANYTHING! IF YOU  
MEN PEEP AT ME  
I'LL KILL YOU!



**GLAD IN A TOWEL, LAURA CLIMBS FROM THE TANK AND ACCUSES THE WRONG PERSON—**

**YOU PUT SOLVENT IN THE WATER, PENNY VERNON! IT WAS ONE OF YOUR CHEAP PRESS-AGENT TRICKS!**



**YOU SHAMED ME! NOW I'LL SHAME YOU!**

**CUT IT OUT!**



**BY RIGHTS I OUGHT TO MURDER YOU!**

**QUIT IT, YOU IDIOT!**



**TURNER TACKLES LAURA AN INSTANT BEFORE SHE CAN HURL A HEAVY LAMP AT PENNY'S HEAD**

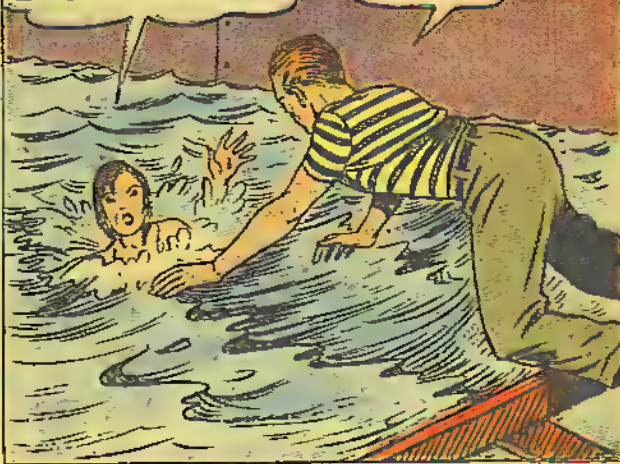
**LET GO OF ME! I'LL BRAIN HER! IX-NAY! YOU'RE PITCHING AT THE WRONG PARTY!**



**ASSISTANT CAMERAMAN JOE FARLEY DIVES TO PENNY'S RESCUE**

**HELP! I'M DROWNING! I-- CAN'T ---SWIM!**

**I'LL SAVE YOU, BABY!**





CHUCK BOONE OPENS HIS CAMERA, TURNER GIVES HIM A TONGUE-LASHING.

YOU'RE PRACTICAL JOKE WAS PRETTY SHABBY, BUSTER.

TURNED INTO A HECK OF A HASSLE, HUNH, HAWKSHAW!



YEAH, BUT LAURA MIGHT HAVE CROAKED PENNY, YOU HEEL!

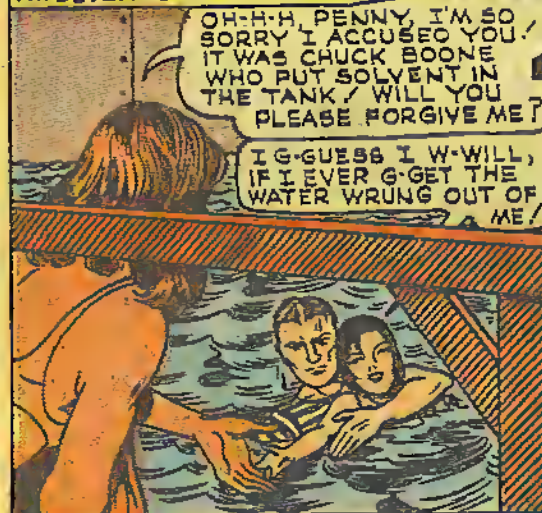
SO WHAT? I NOT ONLY GOT MY FOOTAGE OF THE SWIM STRIP-TEASE, BUT OF THE STRIP-TEASE FIGHT, TOO!



LAURA LANE OVERHEARS BOONE'S AD-MISSION OF GUILT

OH-H-H PENNY, I'M SO SORRY I ACCUSED YOU! IT WAS CHUCK BOONE WHO PUT SOLVENT IN THE TANK! WILL YOU PLEASE FORGIVE ME?

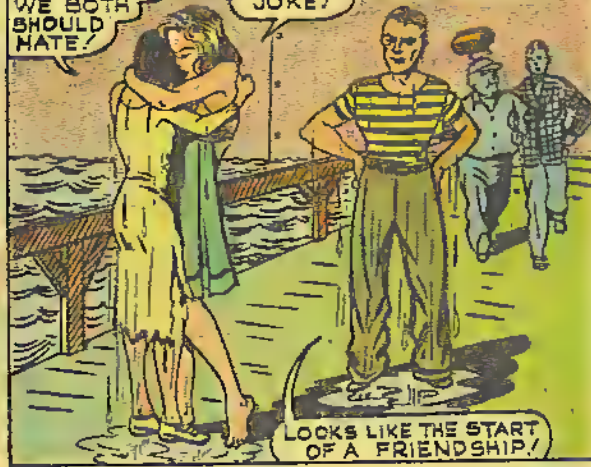
I G-GUESS I W-WILL, IF I EVER G-GET THE WATER WRUNG OUT OF ME!



THE GIRLS TEARFULLY EMBRACE

I'M NOT SURE AT YOU! BOONE IS THE LOUSE WE BOTH SHOULD HATE!

B-BOO-HOO! TO THINK I SUSPECTED YOU OF HIS NASTY PRACTICAL JOKE!



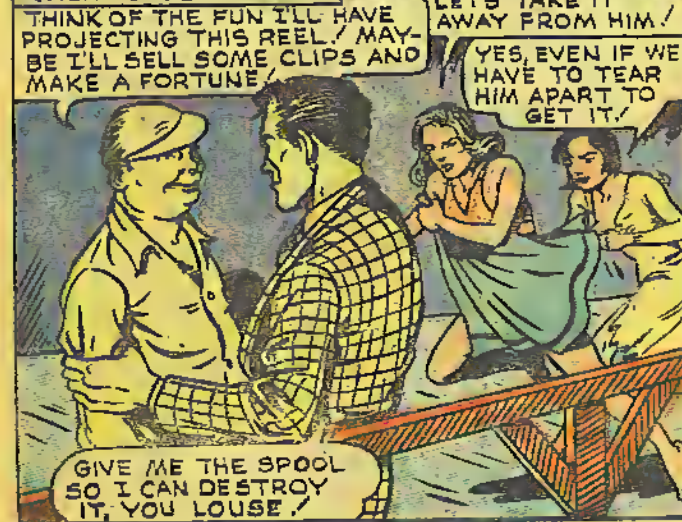
LOOKS LIKE THE START OF A FRIENDSHIP!

WHEN THEY BOTH OVERHEAR MORE OF BOONE'S TALK TO TURNER

THINK OF THE FUN I'LL HAVE PROJECTING THIS REEL! MAYBE I'LL SELL SOME CLIPS AND MAKE A FORTUNE!

LET'S TAKE IT AWAY FROM HIM!

YES, EVEN IF WE HAVE TO TEAR HIM APART TO GET IT!



GIVE ME THE SPOOL SO I CAN DESTROY IT, YOU LOUSE!

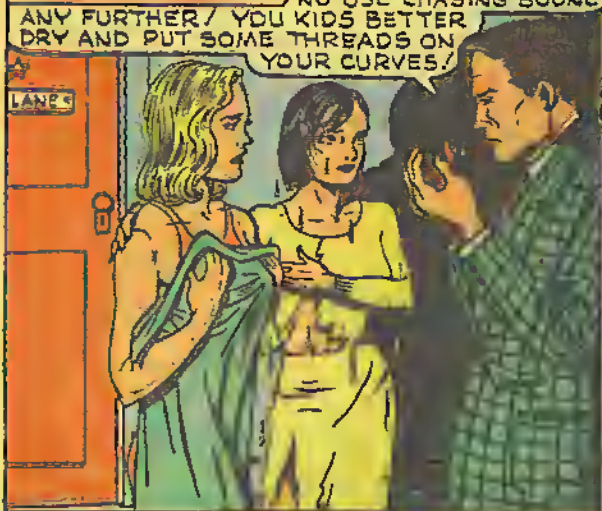
NUTS! THE FILM IS MINE! I'M KEEPING IT!



AWK!



**BOONE VANISHES SOMEWHERE ON THE ALHAMBRA LOT** — NO USE CHASING BOONE ANY FURTHER / YOU KIDS BETTER DRY AND PUT SOME THREADS ON YOUR CURVES!



COME INTO MY DRESSING ROOM, PENNY. I'LL LEND YOU ONE OF MY FRACKS!



**DAN WANDERS ALONG THE HALL**

HEY! THAT CLOSET DOOR WAS CLOSED THE LAST TIME I CAME THIS WAY.



**HE PEERS INTO THE CLOSET**



**LAURA AND PENNY ARRIVE --- AND JUMP TO A CONCLUSION**

GOSH, GUINSHOE, DID YOU HAVE TO K-KILL HIM TO SPOIL THE REEL AND SAVE OUR REPUTATIONS? WE'LL NEVER TELL ON YOU, PHILO.



**JUST A CONFOUNDED MINUTE! I WAS WONDERING IF YOU QUAILS SNEAKED FROM THE DRESSING ROOM BY A BACK DOOR AND PULLED THIS CROAKERY YOURSELVES!**





TURNER'S BLURT CAUSES  
LAURA TO SCREAM AND FAINT~



THE SCREAM BRINGS THE REPORTERS TO THE SCENE

BOONE'S BEEN  
MURDERED. TURNER THREATENED HIM! SO DID  
PENNY AND LAURA! BETTER HOLD  
ALL OF THEM FOR THE COPS!



RUN, GUMSHOE!

YES--QUICK--  
GET AWAY!

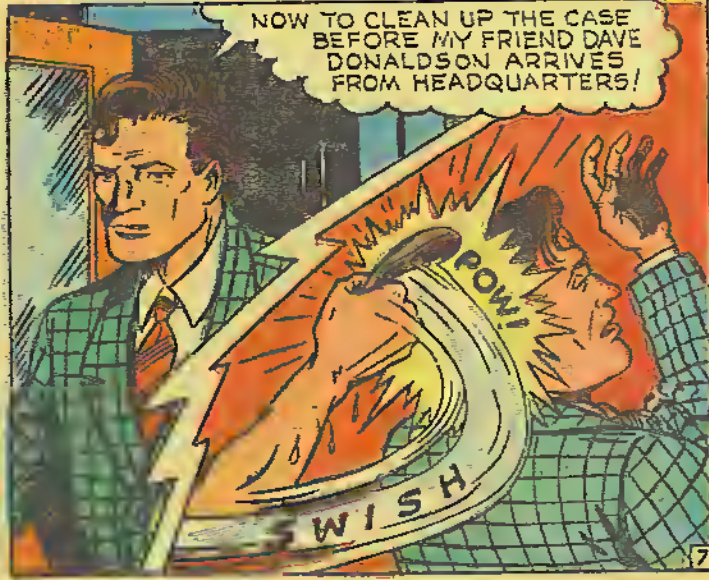


TURNER PHONES THE STUDIO  
FRONT OFFICE A QUESTION AND  
GETS THE RIGHT ANSWER

YEAH, I FIGURED THAT WAS THE  
SETUP! THANKS!



NOW TO CLEAN UP THE CASE  
BEFORE MY FRIEND DAVE  
DONALDSON ARRIVES  
FROM HEADQUARTERS!



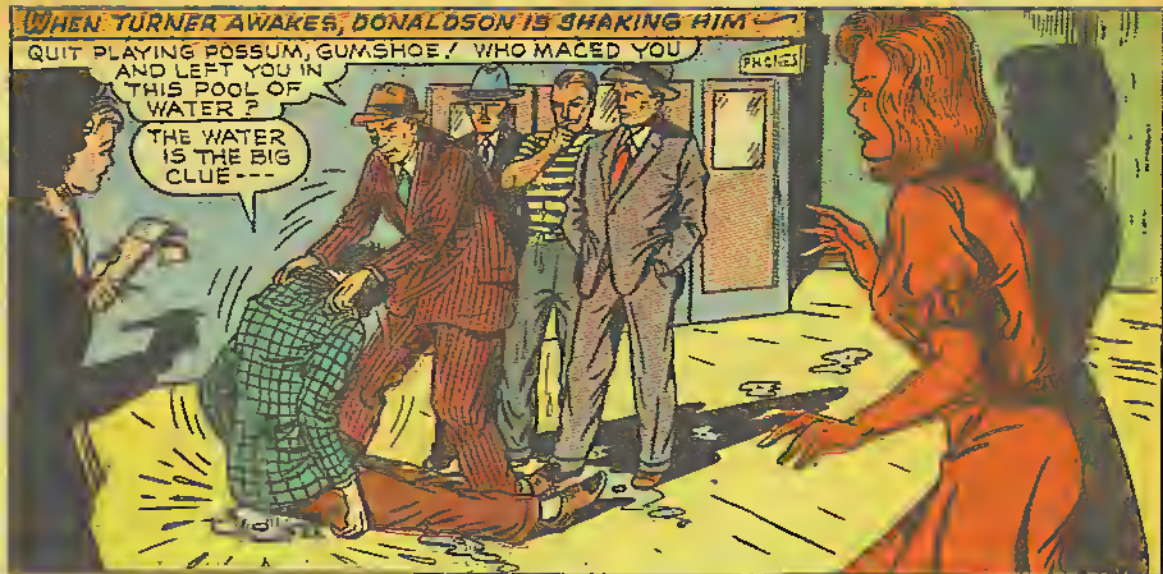


**WHEN TURNER AWAKES, DONALDSON IS SHAKING HIM**

**QUIT PLAYING POSSUM, GUMSHOE! WHO MACE'D YOU**

**AND LEFT YOU IN  
THIS POOL OF  
WATER?**

**THE WATER  
IS THE BIG  
CLUE---**



**AND ASSISTANT CAMERAMAN JOE FARLEY  
IS THE KILLER! I FOUND OUT FARLEY  
WOULD INHERIT BOONE'S JOB --- AS  
FIRST CAMERAMAN! THAT WAS HIS  
CROAKERY MOTIVE! YOU'RE OUT OF  
YOUR HEAD, FLATFOOT!**



**THERE WAS WATER NEAR BOONE'S BODY  
--- AND WATER WHERE YOU LEFT ME  
AFTER CONKING ME! YOUR CLOTHES  
WERE DRIPPING FROM A DIVE IN THE  
TANK, BUT NO MOISTURE DRIPPED  
FROM LAURA OR PENNY! HAVE A  
TASTE OF FIST-MEDICINE, PAL!**



**TAKE HIM TO THE GOW, DAVE! HE SAW AN  
OPPORTUNITY TO BUMP BOONE AND  
TURN SUSPICION ON LAURA, PENNY AND  
MYSELF! BUT HIS SOAKED  
GARMENTS GAVE HIM AWAY!**



**OKAY KIDS, THE EMBARRASSING REEL IS  
RUINED AND THE KILL IS SOLVED! I'VE  
LAMPED ENOUGH OF YOU DOLLS TO  
CRAVE TO KNOW YOU BETTER. LET'S ALL  
HAVE A DATE  
FOR DINNER  
TONIGHT.**





# RAY HALE

**News  
ACE**

## "The SINISTER GUEST!"

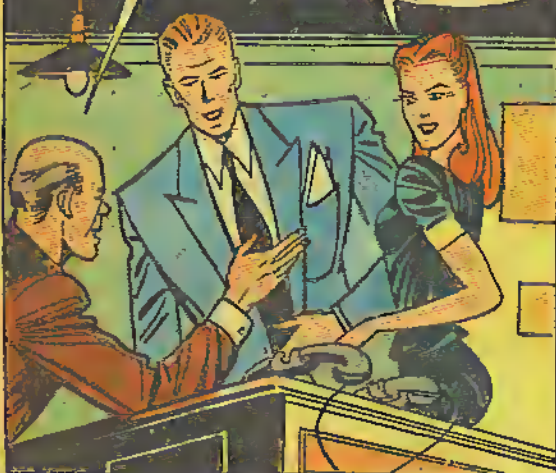
by NEWT ALFRED

ONE DAY, RAY HALE, STAR REPORTER, AND RUTH MERIDEN, ONE OF THE "SOB SISTERS" OF THE "CLARION", ARE CALLED OVER BY THEIR CITY EDITOR, WHO HAS A HOT LEAD FOR THEM...

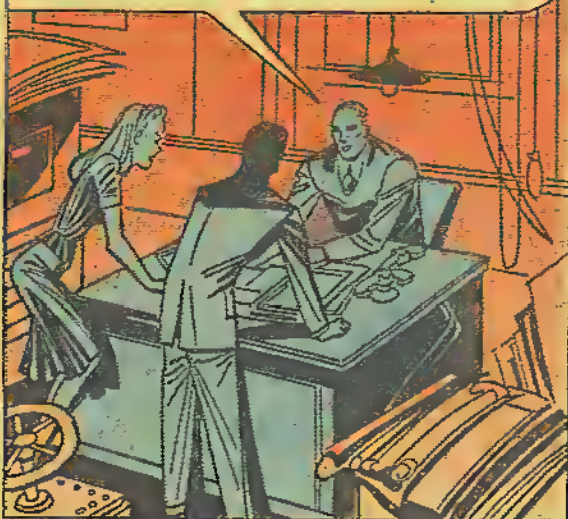
THERE'S A DELEGATION FROM IRAQ IN TOWN TO NEGOTIATE SOME OIL CONCESSIONS...THEY OUGHT TO BE GOOD FOR A COUPLE OF FEATURES.

SURE...I'LL GET THE POLITICAL ANGLE!

DID THEY BRING THEIR HAREMS?



NOW LISTEN TO THIS...AN INTERNATIONAL SPY KNOWN ONLY AS "THE OWL" IS RUMORED TO BE IN TOWN, TOO! THERE MIGHT BE A REASON...THIS FOREIGN OIL DEAL, ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN! NOBODY KNOWS WHAT THIS SPY LOOKS LIKE...JUST THAT HE WEARS GLASSES!



THE DELEGATION IS BEING ENTERTAINED TONIGHT AT THE BIG PHELPS ESTATE OUTSIDE OF TOWN. INSTEAD OF PRESS PASSES, I GOT YOU REAL INVITATIONS!

GOSH, I'LL FEEL STRANGE IN EVENING CLOTHES!

I'D LOVE TO GO!



THAT EVENING, HALE CALLS FOR RUTH...

BABY, YOU'RE A DREAM!

GLAD YOU APPROVE, RAY. LET'S GET GOING!





**T**HE RECEPTION IS A BRILLIANT EVENT...

THAT'S CORA ZENDER  
WITH HAFIZ BEY. I HEAR SHE'S A  
POPULAR HOSTESS ABROAD. SHE  
KNOWS ALL THE BIG SHOTS!



**L**ATER, RUTH MEETS MME. ZENDER...

I ALWAYS LIKE TO MEET  
THE PRESS! DO COME TO  
TEA TOMORROW.

LOVE  
TO...



**S**OME TIME LATER, THERE IS A  
SUDDEN COMMOTION...

WHAT'S  
WRONG?

SOMEBODY'S IN  
THERE...HURT!



A MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION LIES  
DEAD BEYOND THE CURTAIN...

IT'S MURDER! AND WITH A KNIFE!  
LOOK AT THAT MARK  
ON HIS THROAT!



THIS IS SERIOUS, GENTLEMEN! SOME  
IMPORTANT PAPERS ARE MISSING!

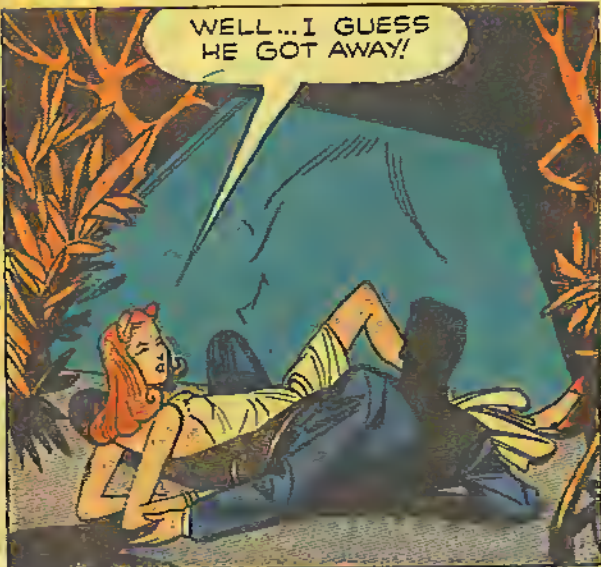






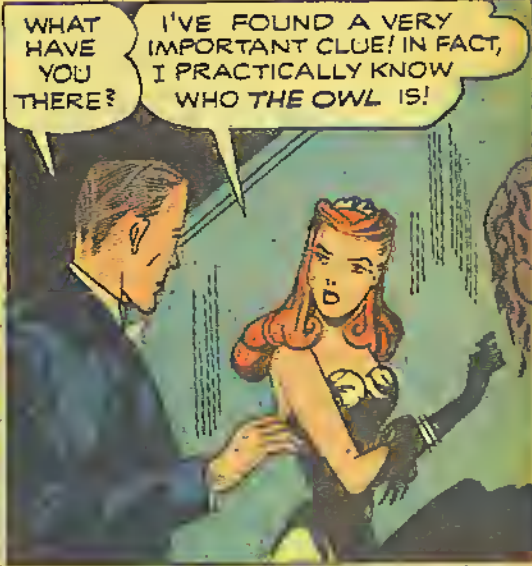


WELL...I GUESS  
HE GOT AWAY!



WHAT  
HAVE  
YOU  
THERE?

I'VE FOUND A VERY  
IMPORTANT CLUE! IN FACT,  
I PRACTICALLY KNOW  
WHO THE OWL IS!



THE NEXT AFTERNOON...

IT WAS NICE  
OF YOU TO  
INVITE ME.

I CAN INTRODUCE YOU  
TO LOTS OF IMPORTANT  
PEOPLE. MAYBE YOU  
CAN BE OF USE TO  
ME, TOO!



WHAT A CURIOUS  
RING...MAY I HOLD IT?

WELL... JUST FOR  
A MOMENT!



JUST THEN, A SERVANT  
REQUESTS MME. ZENDER'S  
URGENT ATTENTION...



AS HER HOSTESS  
LEAVES THE ROOM,  
RUTH ACTS FAST...



...AND LEAVES BY THE  
NEAREST WINDOW!





THAT NIGHT, HALE VISITS RUTH, AND  
WHEN HE LEAVES...

RAY, I'VE GOT A SWELL  
LEAD. BUT I WANT TO  
USE THE SCOOP IN THE  
FIRST EDITION  
TOMORROW.

THAT'S OKAY,  
BABY. YOU'RE  
ENTITLED TO  
BREAK THE  
STORY! GOOD NIGHT!



AS SOON AS HALE LEAVES, A SINISTER  
FIGURE GLIDES FROM THE ADJOINING ROOM...

DON'T UTTER A SOUND,  
OR I'LL SHOOT!



A BLOCK AWAY, HALE MISSES HIS  
GLOVES AND TURNS BACK...

GOSH, THIS FOG IS ROLLING  
IN FAST... I WONDER IF  
RUTH IS STILL UP...



HE HEARS A PIERCING SCREAM... IT  
COMES FROM RUTH'S APARTMENT...



WHERE'S THE  
RING YOU STOLE?



HALE SMASHES THROUGH THE DOOR...

LUCKY THE DOORS  
IN THESE OLD HOUSES  
AREN'T TOO STRONG!





**T**HE INTRUDER BEATS A  
HASTY RETREAT...



**T**HE FLEEING FIGURE STEALS  
A CAR...



HALE AND RUTH RACE DOWNSTAIRS...



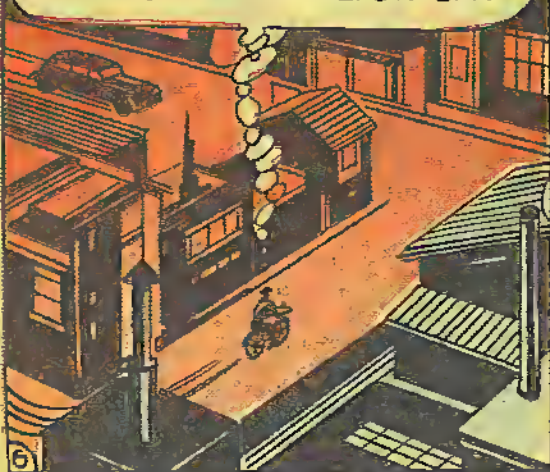
RUTH LUCKILY PICKS UP A  
MOTORCYCLE COP...

I'M RUTH MERIDEN, OF THE "CLARION".  
THAT'S A DANGEROUS CRIMINAL. HELP  
US CATCH HIM - QUICK!



THE COP TAKES A SHORT CUT...

I'LL CUT THROUGH HOGAN'S ALLEY  
AND HEAD THAT FELLOW OFF!



**T**HE WILY COP STOPS THE FLEEING  
CAR...

PULL UP, THERE!





COME OUTA THERE, YOU THIEF! I KNOW THIS CAR, AND IT ISN'T YOURS!

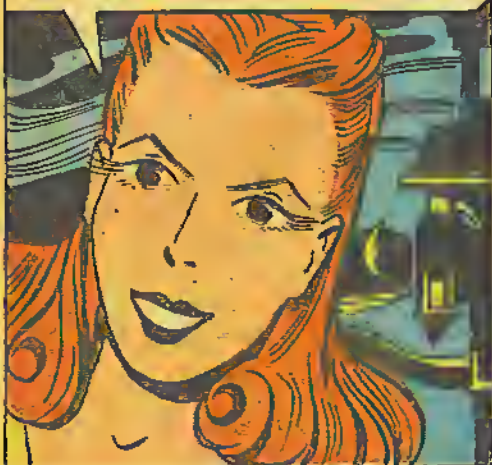


WHY... IT'S A DAME!

I KNEW IT ALL THE TIME! IT'S CORA ZENDERS, ALIAS THE OWL!



I SUSPECTED HER WHEN I FOUND A BIT OF HER EVENING DRESS ON THE WALL. REMEMBER, RAY?



LATER, BACK IN THE "CLARION" OFFICE...

HERE'S THE RING SHE USED TO KILL THE DIPLOMAT! IT HIDES A SMALL KNIFE WHICH CARRIES A DEADLY POISON!

GOOD WORK, RUTH!



SHE'S A SMART GIRL... AND A SWEET ONE!



NOW I'LL WRITE MY STORY TO SHOW HOW SMART I AM! LATER, RAY, I'LL SHOW YOU HOW SWEET I CAN BE...

IT'S A DATE, BABY!



LOOK FOR RAY HALE IN OUR NEXT ISSUE!



# SALLY the SLEUTH

in "DEATH WATCH"

THE CHIEF, A PRIVATE DETECTIVE, AND SALLY, HIS GIRL ASSISTANT, RECEIVE A VISIT FROM HERMAN BICKEL, THE PROPRIETOR OF THE LEADING UNDERTAKING ESTABLISHMENT OF THEIR CITY...

THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE I WANT TO DISCUSS WITH YOU. LAST NIGHT, MY FUNERAL PARLOR WAS BROKEN INTO BY AN INTRUDER. THE BACK DOOR LOCK WAS CLEVERLY REMOVED AND LATER REPLACED.

ANYTHING STOLEN?

NO-NOT A THING. BUT I CAN'T HAVE ANYTHING UPSET JUST NOW. I'M HANDLING THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BURIAL OF OLD AMOS CRANE, THE RICH BANKER WHO DIED YESTERDAY.

THE CHIEF AND SALLY GO TO THE FUNERAL PARLOR, WHERE THEY MAKE A CAREFUL EXAMINATION...

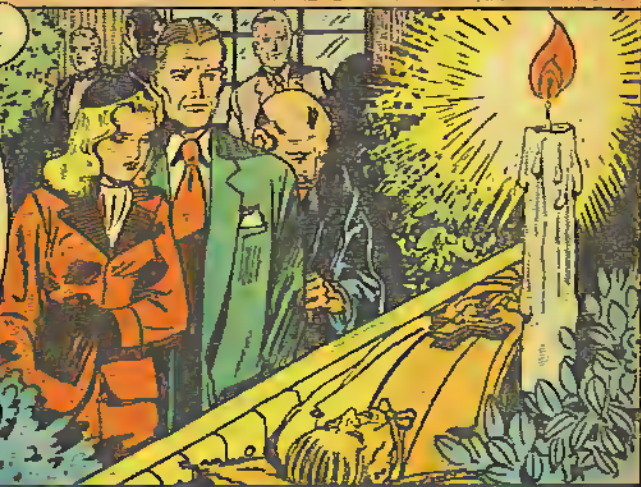
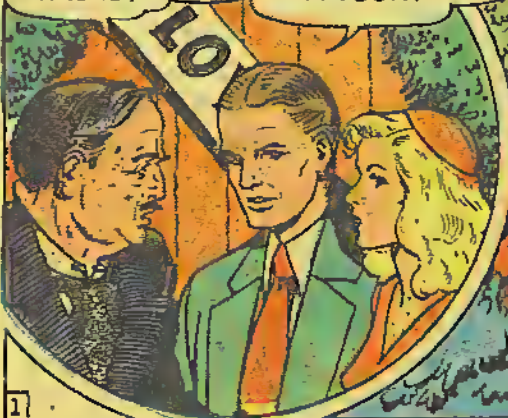
THIS IS WHERE I HAD THE \$5,000. BRONZE CASKET FOR AMOS CRANE, BUT IT WASN'T STOLEN. IT'S NOW AT HIS HOUSE WITH HIM IN IT.

I'LL TAKE A GOOD LOOK AROUND HERE.  
- HMM-M...

THIS IS ONE OF MY BIGGEST JOBS AND I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT NOTHING GOES WRONG.

SALLY AND I WILL GO OVER TO THE CRANE HOUSE AND TAKE A LOOK.

THE DETECTIVE AND SALLY JOIN THE LINE OF MOURNERS AT THE LATE BANKER'S MANSION...

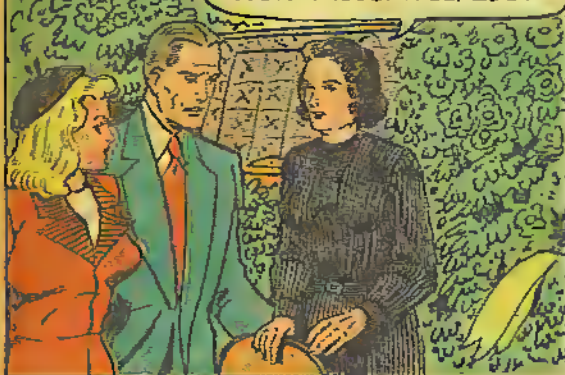




**THEY MEET THE BANKER'S WIDOW...**

MY CONDOLENCES, MRS. CRANE. I'M AN OLD FRIEND OF YOUR LATE HUSBAND'S, AND I CAME JUST AS SOON AS I HEARD OF HIS PASSING. THIS IS MY SISTER.

THANK YOU, I APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS.



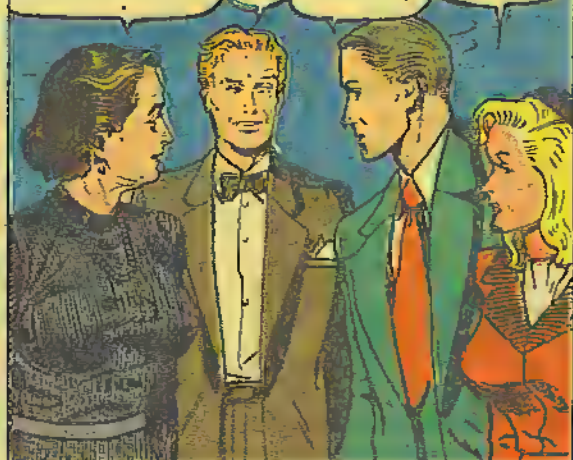
**A YOUNG MAN STEPS UP TO THE GROUP...**

THIS IS MY NEPHEW FRED.

'LO

HOW DO YOU DO?

HELLO -



**THE SLEUTHS KEEP UP THEIR PRETENSE...**

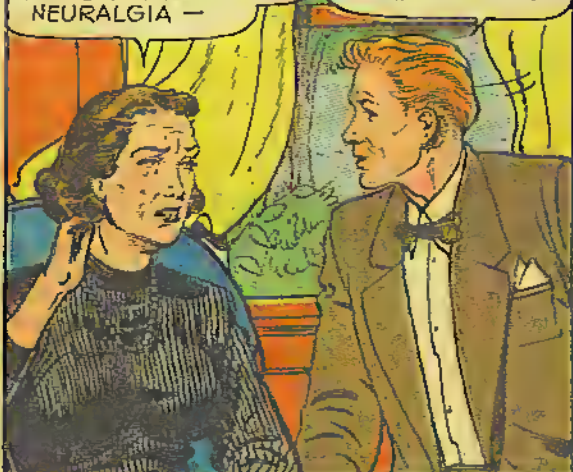
IT WAS NICE OF YOU TO COME ALL THE WAY FROM ANOTHER STATE. AMOS DIDN'T HAVE MANY CLOSE FRIENDS.

HE WAS A FINE CHAP AND A GOOD BUSINESS MAN. HE HANDLED MY INVESTMENTS IN THIS CITY.



OH DEAR, THERE'S AN AWFUL DRAFT IN HERE. IT'S BAD FOR MY NEURALGIA -

IT'S FROM THAT WINDOW, AUNTIE. I'LL CLOSE IT.



IT'S STUCK - BUT DON'T WORRY. I'LL GET MY TOOL KIT AND FIX IT IN A JIFFY -



**FRED GETS HIS TOOLS AND FIXES THE WINDOW...**

THERE! IT'S ALL RIGHT NOW.

FRED'S SO HANDY WITH TOOLS, HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN A MECHANIC.

WELL, MRS. CRANE, WE WILL HAVE TO GO NOW. SEE YOU TOMORROW.





**IN THE DETECTIVE'S OFFICE...**

HERE'S AN ARTICLE ON CRANE'S WILL. HE LEAVES EVERYTHING TO HIS WIDOW, AND AFTER HER DEATH IT GOES TO HER NEPHEW. IF ANYTHING SHOULD HAPPEN TO THEM, THE MONEY GOES TO ORPHAN ASYLUMS.



**THAT NIGHT, AFTER ALL THE VISITORS HAVE LEFT, THE CHIEF AND SALLY ARE SNOOPING AROUND OUTSIDE THE CRANE MANSION.**



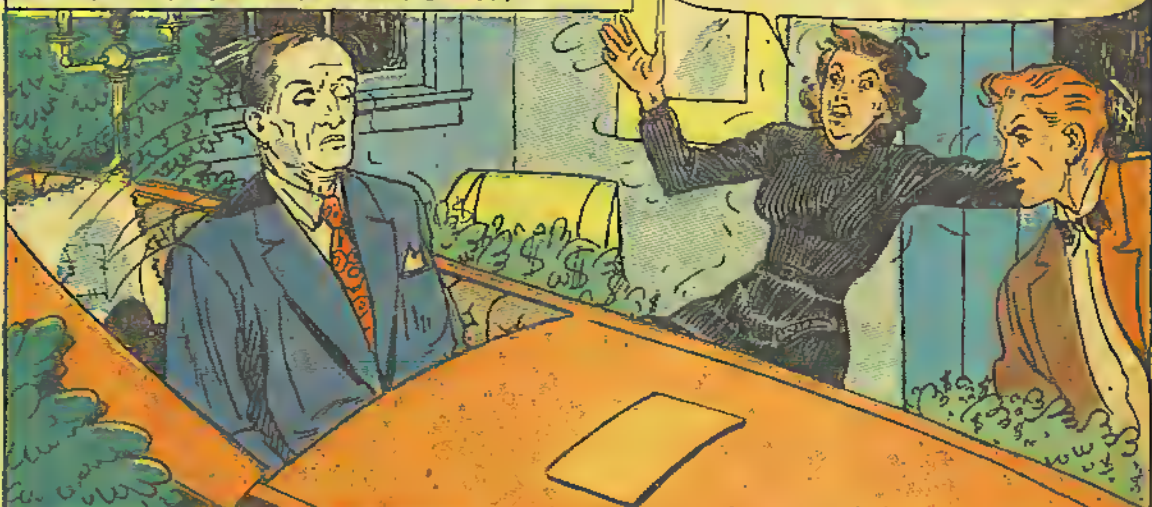
**INSIDE, FRED AND HIS AUNT ARE ALONE IN THE ROOM...**

I'LL RE-ARRANGE THESE FLOWERS A BIT -



**S**UDDENLY, A GRUESOME, BLOOD-CURDLING THING HAPPENS-- THE DEAD MAN SITS STRAIGHT UP IN HIS CASKET !!!

**EEEE-EEK!! AMOS!**  
HE'S MOVING! HE'S-- AAAGH !!



**HAVING SEEN ALL THROUGH THE WINDOW, THE DETECTIVES RUSH IN...**

WHAT'S THIS! YOUR AUNT SCREAMED. LUCKY WE WERE NEARBY -

I'M AFRAID AUNTIE'S DEAD-- HEART ATTACK!



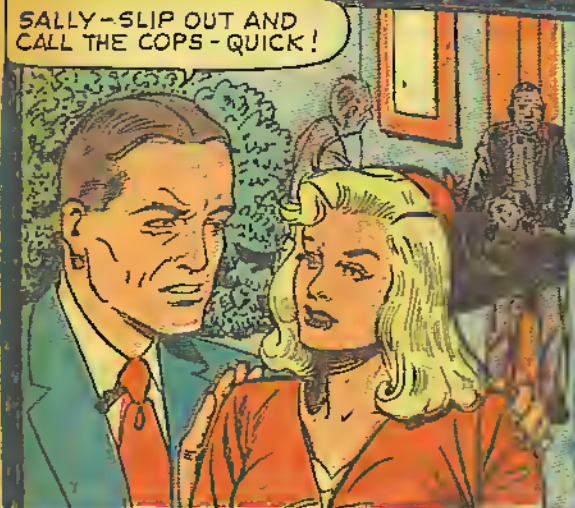
THE BODY'S BACK IN PLACE AGAIN. FRED HASN'T SAID A WORD ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED. I WONDER WHY--





AS FRED AND THE SERVANTS REMOVE THE DEAD WOMAN.

SALLY - SLIP OUT AND  
CALL THE COPS - QUICK!



ALONE FOR A WHILE, THE CHIEF LOOKS  
CURIOUSLY UNDER THE CASKET...

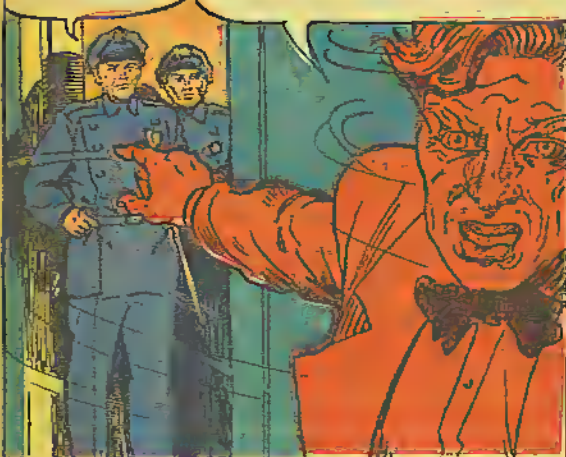
AH, MY SUSPICIONS  
WERE CORRECT!



THE POLICE SOON REACH THE SCENE...

WHAT'S GOING  
ON HERE?

HEY - WHO CALLED THESE  
COPS? - WHAT'S THE IDEA?



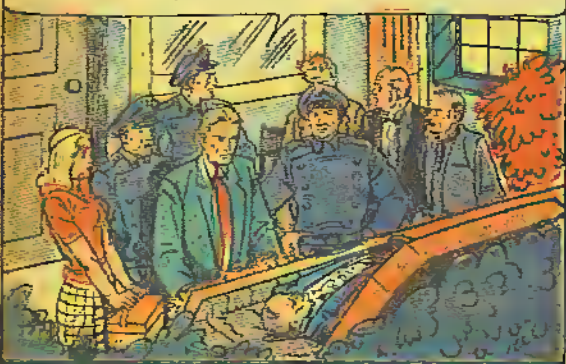
I SENT FOR THEM, SALLY, GO TO HIS ROOM  
AND BRING HIS TOOL KIT HERE. I WILL  
PROVE THAT MRS. CRANE WAS MURDERED -  
AND HER NEPHEW FRED  
IS HER KILLER!

IT'S A LIE!



THE TOOL KIT IS QUICKLY FOUND, AND THE  
CHIEF RECONSTRUCTS THE CASE...

FRED BROKE INTO BICKEL'S MORTUARY PARLOR AND  
BORED HOLES IN THE BOTTOM OF THE BRONZE CAS-  
KET. I FOUND BRONZE DUST THERE, YOU'LL FIND  
IT ON HIS TOOLS TOO. HE RIGGED AN IRON BAR  
INSIDE THE BOTTOM TO RAISE THE BODY WHEN  
HE PRESSED A HIDDEN LEVER. HERE'S HOW -



THE CHIEF PASSES THE LEVER HIDDEN  
BEHIND THE FLOWERS, AND - -

LOOK -

WELL -  
I'LL BE--!

GOOD GRACIOUS!  
HOW HORRIBLE!!!





FRED MAKES A BREAK FOR THE DOOR...

HE WAS CLEVER,  
ALL RIGHT, HE -  
-HEY!

GRAB  
HIM!

GET OUT OF  
MY WAY!

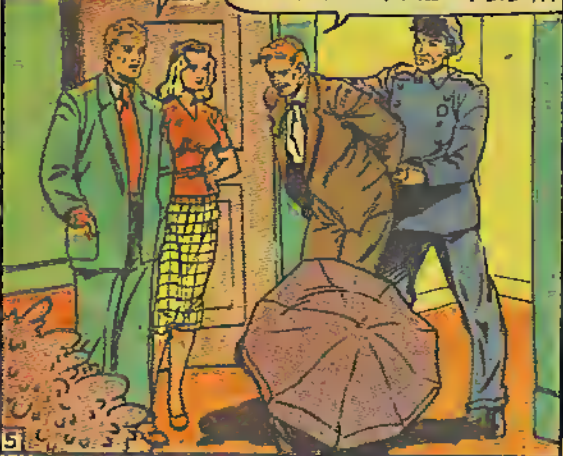


ALERT SALLY SPRINGS AND BRINGS DOWN  
THE FUGITIVE WITH A FLYING TACKLE...



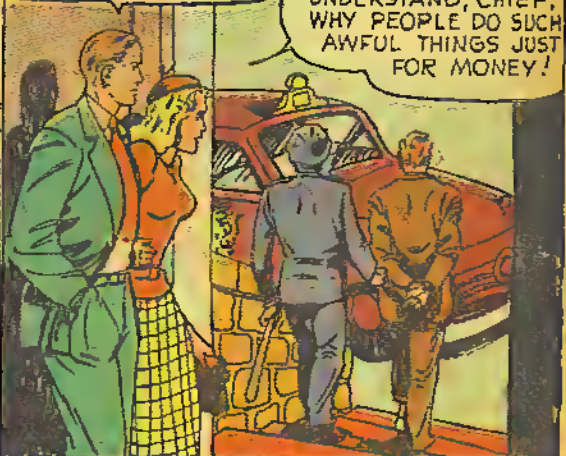
FRED KNEW OF HIS AUNT'S WEAK HEART, AND  
PLANNED TO SCARE HER TO DEATH AND THEN  
REMOVE HIS CONTRIVANCE BEFORE THE FUNERAL.  
LUCKY WE WERE  
OUTSIDE WATCHING.

YES-I GUESS YOU'RE TOO  
SMART FOR ME--I DID IT.



HE COULDN'T WAIT TO GET HIS HANDS ON THE  
OLD MAN'S MONEY. NOW HE'LL PAY FOR HIS  
AUNT'S DEATH AND THE  
ORPHAN HOMES WILL  
GET ALL THE DOUGH.

ANOTHER POOR  
FOOL! I CAN NEVER  
UNDERSTAND, CHIEF,  
WHY PEOPLE DO SUCH  
AWFUL THINGS JUST  
FOR MONEY!



STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 233)

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ADOLPHE BARREAUX, Editor.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26th day of September, 1951, ALFRED YAFFE, Notary Public (My commission expires March 30, 1952).